



Grand Valley Metropolitan Council

Established in 1990

Collaborative Regional Partnerships:

Transportation Planning in the Grand Rapids Metropolitan Area





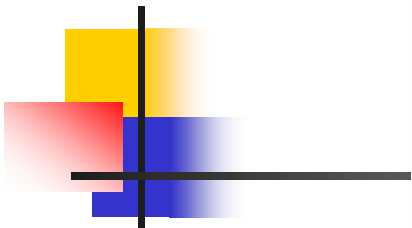
Grand Valley Metro Council

- **Incorporated on October 1, 1990**
- **Began with 11 members, now 35**
- **Communities located in 6 counties**
- **Represents more than 950,000 persons**
- **Covers 13 State Representatives and 7 State Senate, 4 Congressional Districts**
- **Includes private sector representatives**
- **Transportation Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for urbanized area**

Transportation Planning



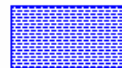
- ➔ **GVMC is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Transportation Management Area agency (TMA) for the Grand Rapids Metro Area**
- ➔ **Responsible for the development and update of the region's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).**
- ➔ **Two Collaborative Committees – Technical and Policy – include representatives of all MPO-member communities and entities**



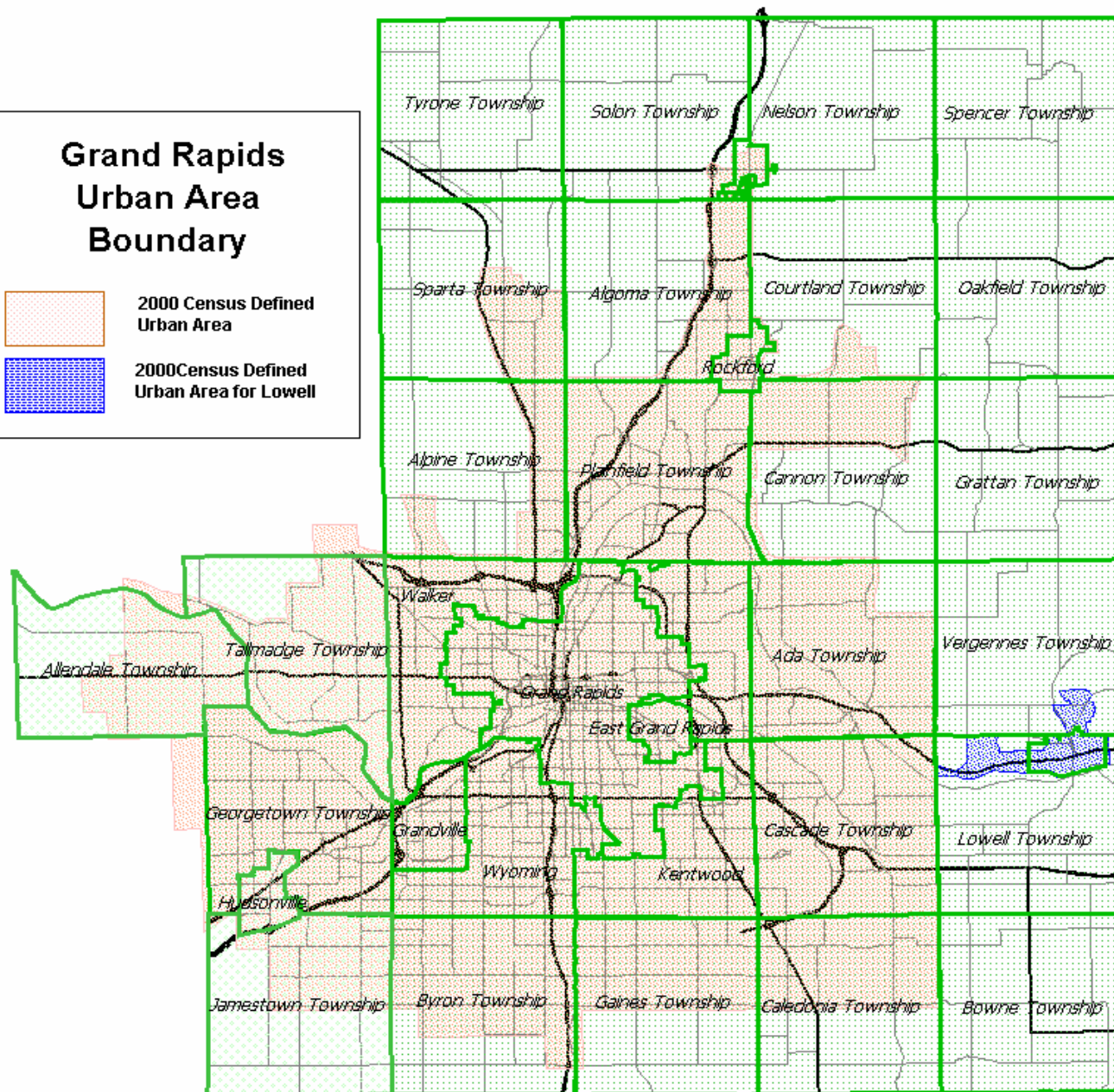
Grand Rapids Urban Area Boundary



2000 Census Defined
Urban Area



2000 Census Defined
Urban Area for Lowell





The Transportation System in Metro Grand Rapids

- ➔ **Within the GVMC MPO area there are 5,300 miles of roads on the local and federal aid systems**
- ➔ **That includes 1,600 miles of federal aid eligible roads**
- ➔ **200 miles of roads within that system are considered “Capacity deficient” according to FHWA and MDOT standards**

Transportation Plan Overview



- ➔ **The GVMC Transportation Plan contains Goals and Objectives for the area Transportation System.**
- ➔ **The Plan is a collaborative process between Federal, State, and Local Partners (32 Jurisdictions)**
- ➔ **The Plan addresses Transportation deficiencies and needs based on detailed analysis of data**
- ➔ **The Plan is multi-modal addressing all modes of transportation within the Metro Area Boundary including Aviation, Highways (state and local), Non-Motorized (walking and biking trails), Rail (Amtrak), and Transit (ITP)**

Transportation Focus

- **Preservation**
- **Congestion**
- **Safety**
- **Transit/Rail**
- **Non-Motorized**
- **ITS/Operations**



Regional Collaboration: Transit Partnerships

- **The Interurban Transit Partnership (ITP-The Rapid) actively participates in the GVMC MPO planning process**
- **ITP representatives are members of the GVMC Technical and Policy Committees, and GVMC planners participate ITP planning forums**



Regional Collaboration: Transit Partnerships

- Since 2003, GVMC transportation planners have participated in ITP's long-range planning process studying bus rapid transit and streetcar connector services
- GVMC Executive Director serves on visioning and steering committee for ITP



Regional Collaboration: Gerald R. Ford Airport



- **Representatives of the airport authority serve on GVMC Technical and Policy Committees**
- **Airport poised to join GVMC-administered regional storm water regulation compliance initiative**

Pavement Management: New Technology Improves Efficiency and Saves Money

- **April, 2006: GVMC becomes first transportation planning agency in Michigan to use mobile pavement management data collection system**
- **Cooperative venture saves money and provides more accurate data to improve decision making**



GVMC Pavement Management System

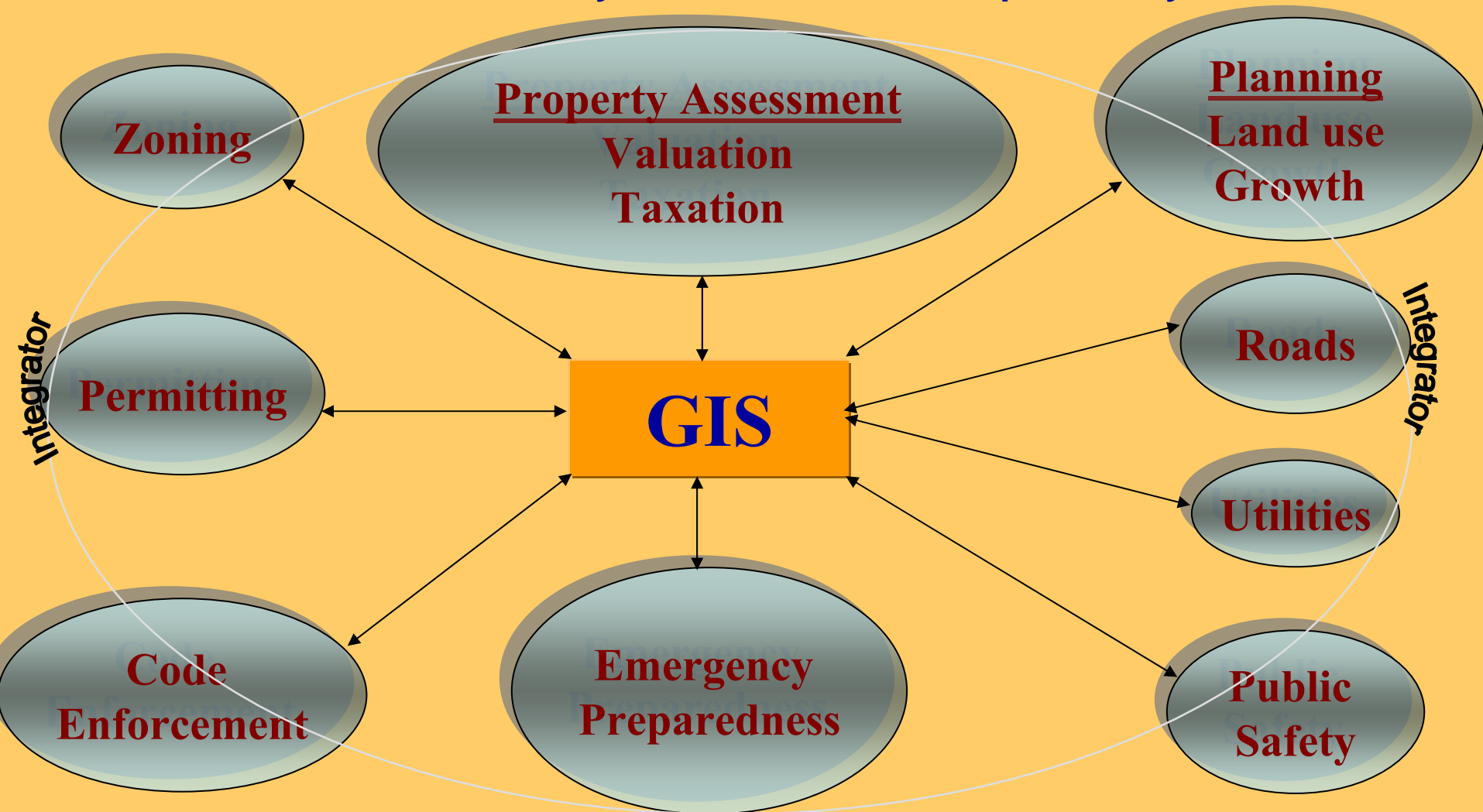


Benefits of Automated Data Collection System

- **Cost effective in the long term**
- **Data more flexible and accurate**
- **Ability to collect data for MPO members at low cost**
- **Ability to maintain current MPO and local systems**
- **Allows for consistent data collection throughout the MPO**
- **Increases efficiency by gathering large amount of data in short time period**
- **The entire 5,300 mile system can be surveyed each year.**

GIS in your day-to-day functions and long-term planning
80% percent of the information governments use is geographic

GIS has ability to better manage and integrate information from many different sources and at many different levels of responsibility



Regional Collaboration: Intelligent Transportation Systems



Intelligent Transportation Systems: Deployment and Cost



- **Deployment in the Grand Rapids area will begin in FY 2008**
- **Phase I – Cost = \$10,750,000**
- **Funded through Federal HPPP Grant and local matching funds**
- **\$23 Million still needed to fully build out the system**

GVMC Committees Structure

Grand Valley Metro Council

Executive Committee

GVMC Advisory Committee

Develop

- Vision
- Policies
- Recommend LRTP, TIP
- Approves TIP and Plan Amendments

Transportation Ad Hoc Committees

Transportation Committee

REGIS Committee

Land Use Committee

Land Use Data
Existing & Future

Develop & Address:

- Congestion Management System
- Pavement Management System
- Asset Management System
- Safety Management System
- Travel Demand Modeling
- Public Involvement Process
- WESTRAIN
- Special Transportation Studies
- Land Use (SE Data)
- Transportation GIS Needs

Roles and Responsibilities

- Development of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)
- Development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Development of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
- LRTP & TIP amendments and Administrative Adjustments.
- Development of Transportation Management Systems.
- Development of Investment Strategies.
- Development of Transportation Planning Process



2035 Long Range Plan Projects by Agency

City/Agency	Number of Projects	Federal/State Amount
Kent County Road Commission	33	\$27,943,400
City of Grand Rapids	19	\$14,404,093
Ottawa County Road Commission	13	\$25,735,300
City of Wyoming	13	\$10,108,500
City of Kentwood	8	\$6,364,650
City of Walker	4	\$5,020,000
City of Grandville	4	\$965,125
City of East Grand Rapids	2	\$130,165
Total		\$90,671,233

***List includes 2008 pavement projects and all capacity improvements listed in Plan**



2035 Long Range Plan Miles of Improvements by Category/Type

Category	Number of Miles	Federal Dollar Amount
Surface Transportation Program-Urban (Preservation)	406.47	\$192,000,000
Economic Development Fund-Category C (Expansion)	51.46	\$70,000,000
Surface Transportation Program-Rural (Preservation)	39.50	\$2,000,000
Transit/Public Transportation		\$500,000,000
Total Miles	497.43	\$764,000,000

***Numbers combine actual miles plus proposed miles**

Transportation Funding Highlights

- In 2006, the Grand Rapids metropolitan area, through the GVMC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), obligated more than \$89 million in transportation improvements



Typical Projects

- **Funded transportation improvements typically include:**
 - **Roadway (resurface, reconstruction)**
 - **Safety (intersection improvements, signals)**
 - **Bridge**

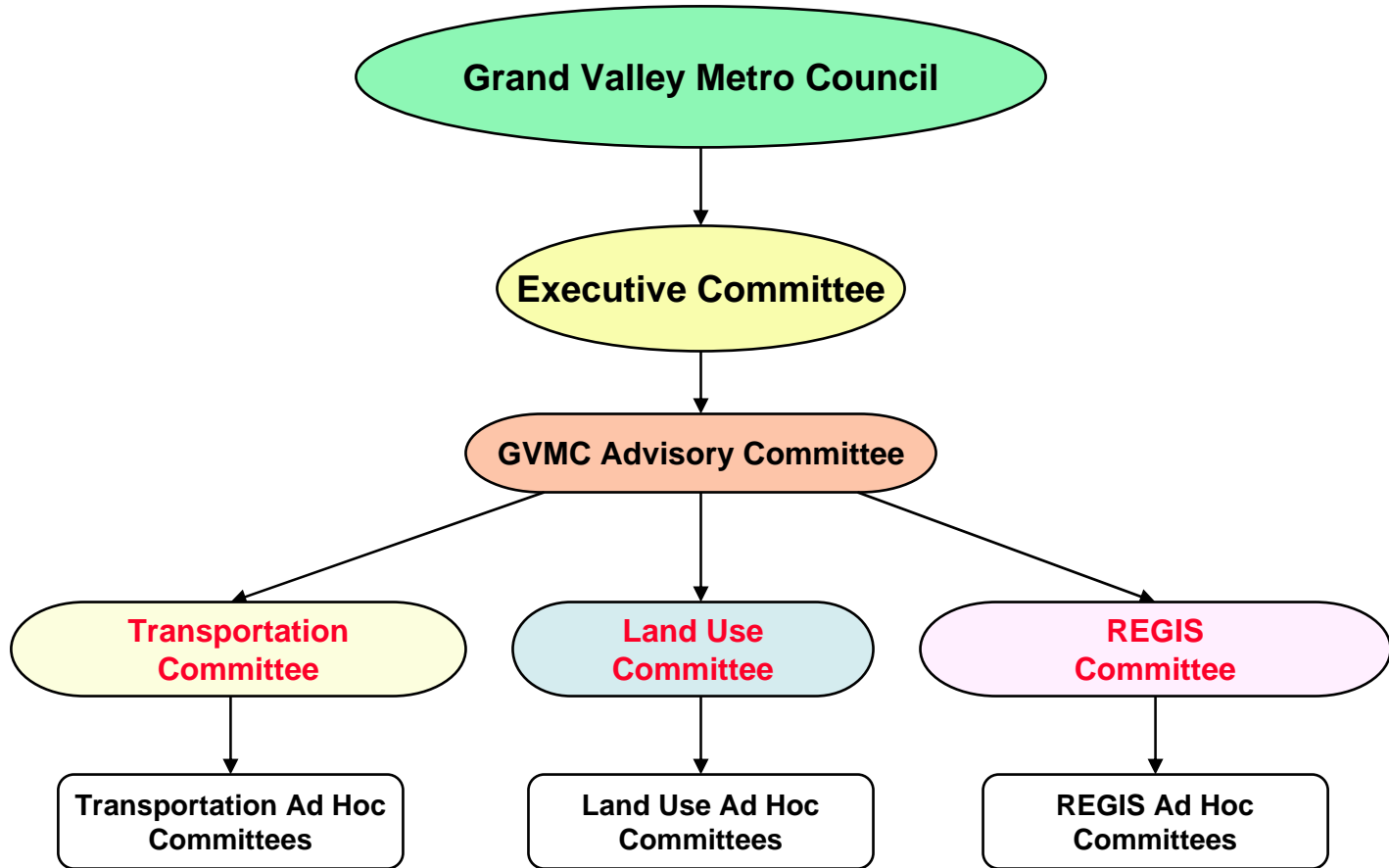


Typical Projects (cont.)

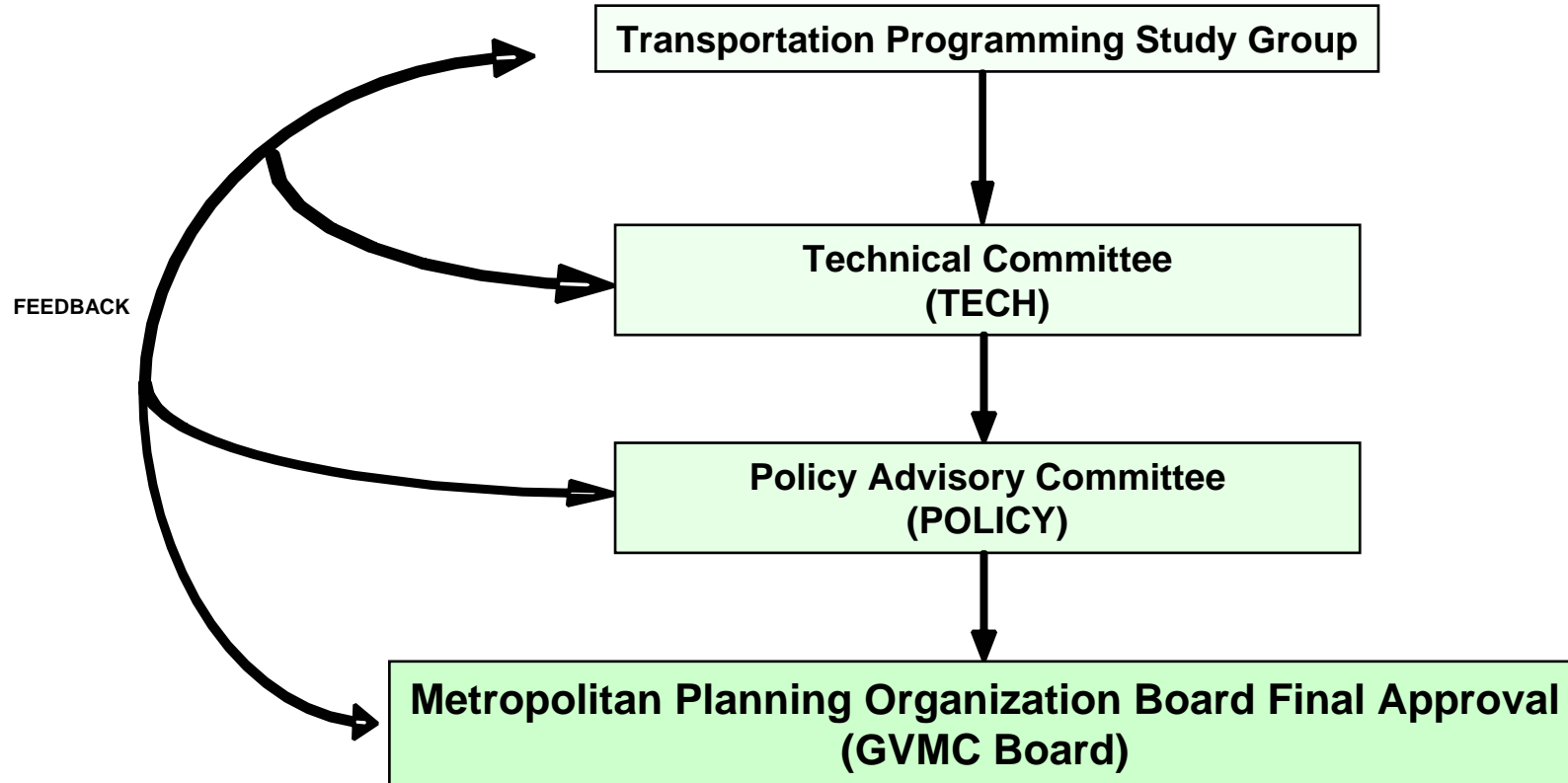
- **Other transportation improvements typically funded annually include:**
 - **Bicycle/Pedestrian (sidewalks/trails)**
 - **Transit (capital/operating)**



GVMC Committees Structure



Transportation Committees Structure



Funding Status

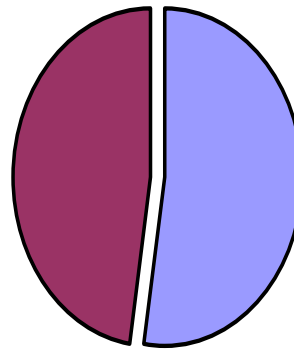


- **Total funding needs by year 2035**
\$8.4 Billion
- **Identified Revenue by 2035**
\$5.9 Billion
- **Unmet funding Needs**
\$2.5 Billion



2035 Long Range Transportation Plan Revenues \$5.9 Billion

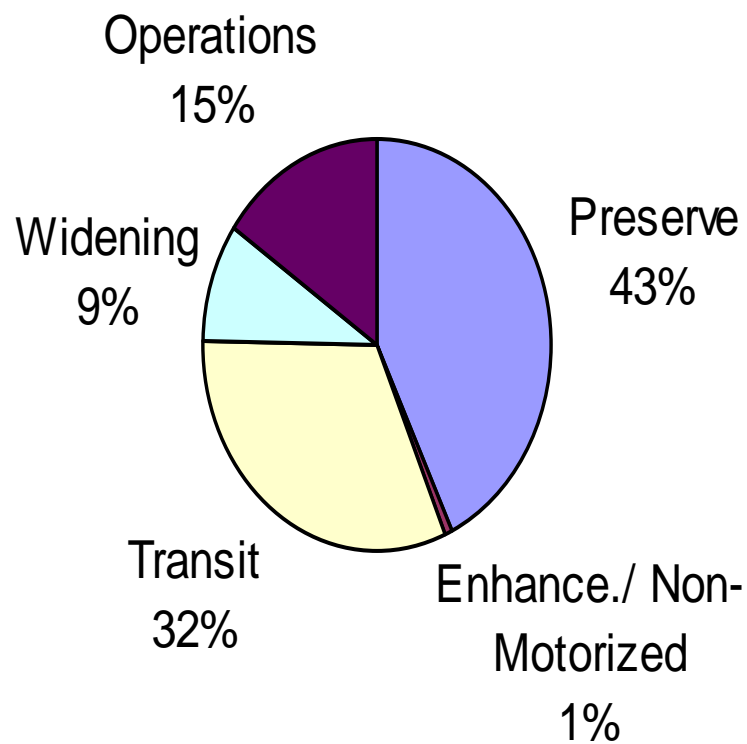
Local
47%



Federal/
State
53%

2035 Long Range Transportation Plan Expenditures

\$5.9 Billion



GVMC Suggestions for Transportation Funding

- **Short Term: Stop practice of Intergovernmental Transfer of Funds from MTF to Departments of Treasury and State**
- **Short Term: Increase Motor Fuels Tax and Vehicle Registration Fees; Index to Detroit CPI**
- **Short Term: Urge Congressional delegation to oppose further rescissions in federal appropriations under SAFETEA-LU**





GVMC Suggestions for Transportation Funding

- **Long Term: research, develop and deploy technology-based system to track vehicle miles traveled and establish funding mechanism based on VMT; Index to Detroit CPI**
- **Long Term: Adopt legislation authorizing local option (regional) transportation taxing structure**
- **Long Term: Urge Congressional delegation to adopt a post-SAFETEA-LU funding formula that adequately supports transportation needs**
- **Long Term: Develop allocation formula that adequately supports all modes of transportation (roads, transit, non-motorized, passenger rail, aviation, etc.)**